



# Wissahickon School District

*True Blue with a Heart of Gold*

## 2023-2024 Profile

Wissahickon High School is a four-year, public high school in Montgomery County, PA with a strong tradition of academic rigor and excellence, enriching co- and extracurricular offerings and a dedicated character education program.

<b>Students</b>	Enrollment 9-12	1,336
	<b>Senior Class</b>	<b>338</b>
	Minority Enrollment	39%
<b>Faculty</b>	Economically Disadvantaged	22%
	Number of Faculty	370
	% with Master's Degree	84%

Enrollment CEEB Code.....390065

**Accolades** | *U.S. News and World Report 2023* ranked WHS 3rd Best High School in Montgomery County and 14th best in the state (compared to public high schools only, with magnet schools removed).

**Community** | WHS is located 22 miles north of Philadelphia. The district encompasses Ambler Borough, Lower Gwynedd Township and Whitpain Township. It prides itself on being a socially, ethnically and economically diverse residential community with the majority of residents employed in professional positions in business, education, law, medicine and technology.

**Character Education** | WHS students participate in character building activities and community service in the classroom and through extracurricular activities.

**Co- & Extracurricular Activities** | 80% of WHS students participate in one or more of the 35+ activities, organizations and athletic programs that compete in interscholastic competitions.

### Graduation Requirements

English	4.00
Social Studies	4.00
Mathematics*	3.00
Science*	3.00
Math, Science or Computer Science*	1.00
Wellness (9th grade)	1.00
Physical Education	1.00
Health	0.50
Career Pathways Portfolio	0.80
Electives **	8.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.80</b>

\*Students must earn a combined total of 7.0 credits in Mathematics and Science which can include 1.0 credit in Computer Programming/Advanced Computer Programming or AP Computer Science.

\*\*Two years of world language are required, but exceptions are considered on an individual basis

### Wissahickon High School

521 Houston Road • Ambler, PA 19002 • [www.wsdweb.org](http://www.wsdweb.org) • Phone: (215) 619-8112 • Fax: (215) 619-8174

#### Administration

Superintendent	Dr. James A. Crisfield
Assistant Superintendent	Dr. Mwenyewe Dawan
Acting Principal	Dr. Karen Haney
Assistant Principal	Mr. Jim Kelly
Assistant Principal	Mr. James Brooks
Athletic Director	Mr. Jim Cairnes
Administrator on Special Assignment	Mrs. Lisa Becker

#### Counseling Staff

Ms. Antoinette Perrotta aperrotta@wsdweb.org Class of '24 and '25 (A-Dh) Class of '26 and '27 (A-Dd)	Mr. Vince Yasenchak (Md-Sb) vyasenchak@wsdweb.org
Mrs. Cailin Diebolt cdiebolt@wsdweb.org Class of '24 and '25 (Di-Ho) Class of '26 and '27 (De-H)	Mrs. Felicia Glover (Sc-Z) fglover@wsdweb.org
Mrs. Marissa Samit msamit@wsdweb.org Class of 24 and '25 (Hp-Mc) Class of '26 and '27 (I-Mc)	Ms. Stacy Anderson College and Career sanderson@wsdweb.org
	Ms. Melissa Schiff - Resource mschiff@wsdweb.org

# Most Rigorous Course Offerings

**Honors Courses** | WHS offers 68 Honors courses. For students interested in the performing or visual arts, the curriculum includes 15 Honors Arts/Music offerings.

**Advanced Placement** | WHS offers 26 Advanced Placement courses and exams. In the Class of 2023, 54% of students took at least one AP exam and received a score of 3 or better. In the Class of 2024, 51% of students took at least one AP exam by the end of junior year. Students are not required to sit the AP exam. WHS will pay for two exams per student per year and all exams for students with financial need.

**Science Labs** | In addition to the traditional lab science courses (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics) and our AP science courses, WHS offers students the opportunity to participate in these additional lab sciences courses for core credit: Anatomy & Physiology, Forensics, Medical Intervention, and Principles of Biomedical Science. Environmental Science is considered a core course but does not currently meet the credentials of a lab science.

## AP Courses Offered

Seminar (10th - 12th)	Microeconomics (12th)
Biology (10th-12th)	Macroeconomics (12th)
Calculus AB (10th -12th)	Physics 1 (10th-12th)
Calculus BC (11th or 12th)	Physics 2 (11th-12th)
Chemistry (11th-12th)	Psychology (11th or 12th)
Computer Science A (11th or 12th)	Research (11th or 12th)
English Language (11th)	Spanish Language (12th)
English Literature (12th)	Statistics (11th or 12th)
Environmental Science (11th or 12th)	Studio Art: 2-D (12th)
European History (10th -12th)	Studio Art: 3-D (12th)
French Language (12th)	US Government & Politics (12th)
German Language (12th)	US History (11th)
Japanese Language (12th)	World History: Modern (10th)

## 2023 AP Exams

Number of exams administered	1180
Percent of total exams resulting in 3+	88%
Percent of Class of 2023 taking at least one test in high school	63%
Percent of testers in Class of 2023 scoring 3+ on at least one exam	86%

## AP Awards

AP Scholar	62
AP Scholar with Honor	37
AP Scholar with Distinction	97
AP Capstone Diploma	9

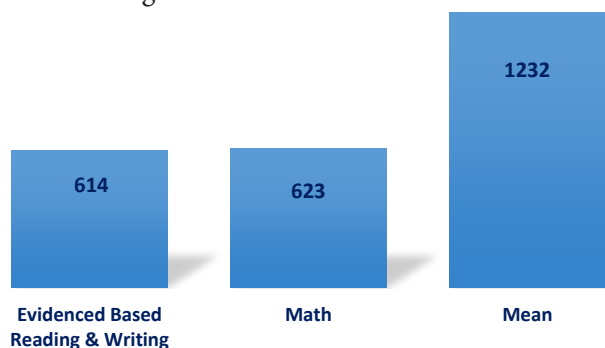
# College Admission Testing - Class of 2023

## Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Results |

61% of the Class of 2023 (207 students) took an SAT

### Class of 2023 SAT Mean Scores

Highest Possible Score = 1600



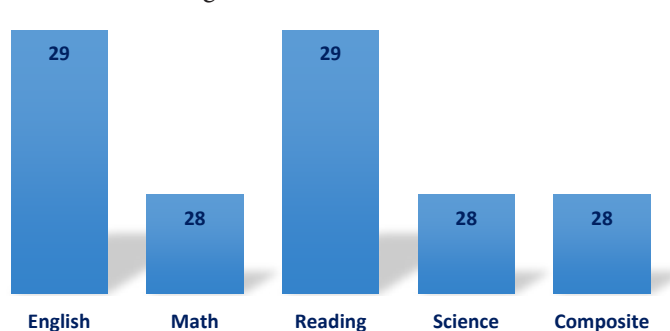
Calculated from highest test score attained across all test attempts

## ACT Results | 23% of the Class of 2023

(78 students) participated in the ACT

### Class of 2023 ACT Mean Scores

Highest Possible Score = 36



Calculated from highest test score attained across all test attempts

**National Merit Scholar Recognition**  
Class of 2023

8 Finalists

22 Commended

# Covid-19 Impacts

**2020-2021** | The 2020-2021 school year began virtually for all students. Two virtual options were available – synchronous virtual instruction by WHS staff or asynchronous virtual instruction through the Wissahickon Virtual Academy. In November, students were given an option to return to school under a hybrid model. Virtual instruction remained an option for the entire school year. Grades were issued based on student performance. No midterm or final exams were given in the 2020-2021 school year.

**2021-2022** | Students returned to in-person instruction five days per week. Students who wished to remain virtual were moved to the Wissahickon Virtual Academy.

# Wissahickon Virtual Academy

The Wissahickon Virtual Academy (WVA) provides a tuition-free educational experience for cyber learners who reside within the boundaries of the Wissahickon School District. The virtual academy is designed for families seeking a more flexibly scheduled secondary program for any one of a number of reasons. Students entering grades 6-12 are eligible to attend WVA, and for those successfully completing their high school program through WVA, they will earn a Wissahickon High School diploma. Course offerings are available at various academic levels, including honors and AP, to support and encourage rigor. The curriculum aligns with the district's credit requirements and assesses student performance relative to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Academic and Core Standards.

The Wissahickon Virtual Academy provides instruction through an asynchronous lesson format. This means that the student will learn through lessons prepared by teachers at the Montgomery Virtual Program (MVP) which is managed through the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. MVP partners with online providers such as Edgenuity, Odesseyware Academy, Peak, The Virtual High School, and Calvert Learning. For a catalog of courses, visit <https://mvp.mciu.org/what-we-offer/course-lists/>.

Courses and grades earned from WVA will be provided on a Wissahickon High School transcript under a separate heading. Grades earned through WVA can/will be used as part of the cumulative WHS GPA calculation. Students enrolled in WVA are eligible to take part in all extra-curricular activities at WHS.

For more detailed information on WVA, visit <https://www.wsdweb.org/schools/wissahickon-virtual-academy>.

## Special Programs

**Dual Enrollment** | Students have the option to earn dual enrollment credit from Montgomery County Community College (MCCC) or Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) for the following courses: Language, Literature, & Writing IV A (MCCC), Fitness (MCCC), Advanced Computer Programming (MCCC), AP Computer Science (MCCC), Introduction to Engineering Design (RIT), Civil Engineering and Architecture (RIT), Computer Integrated Manufacturing (RIT), Mass Media and Society (MCCC), French III H (MCCC), French IV H (MCCC), German III H (MCCC), German IV H (MCCC), Spanish III H (MCCC), Spanish IV H (MCCC)

**Virtual High School (VHS)** | Provides students with online courses not offered at Wissahickon. A maximum of 10 students are selected to enroll in VHS courses based on GPA and ability to independently monitor progress.

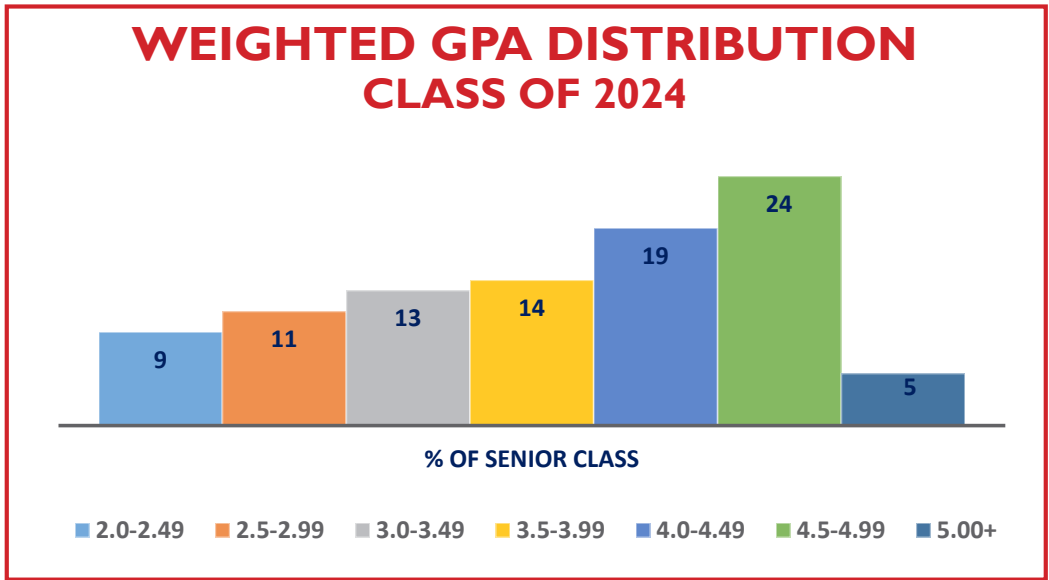
**Senior Internship** | A voluntary yearlong senior course allowing students to complete an internship in the community for elective credit.

**Technical Career Center** | North Montco Technical Career Center (NMTCC) offers 21 programs, including the highly competitive, honors level Biomedical Technology program, a lab-intensive training that offers students the opportunity to earn college credit through Montgomery County Community College. NMTCC students have the opportunity to apply to enroll in the 12th grade honors-level course of their CTE program. The honors course is for 12th grader students who have demonstrated a high level of interest and achievement in their program and who aspire to an advanced level of learning.

# Grading System

Class of 2024 - 338 students  
 Highest Weighted GPA - 5.51

GPA is calculated based on credits earned through Wissahickon, North Montco Technical High School, or Wissahickon Virtual Academy only. Credits recovered in summer school are also included in the GPA. Grades earned at other high schools are NOT calculated in the students' cumulative unweighted/weighted GPA provided by WHS. Both unweighted and weighted GPA are provided on the transcript. Students who earn a C- or better in an AP or Honors level course will have .10 (AP) or .05 (Honors) added to their unweighted GPA to calculate the weighted GPA.



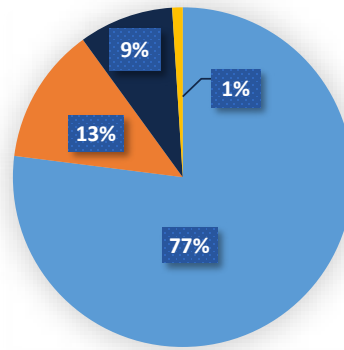
Grading Scale		
Letter Grade	Percent Grade	Grade Points
A	93-100	4
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	65-66	1
F	Below 65	0

WHS Does Not Rank Students

P Passing  
 F Failing  
 M Medical Excuse

# Class of 2023 College Matriculation

90% of 2023 Graduates Elected to Attend one of 116 Colleges/Universities



**345 Graduates**

**Post Secondary Plans**

- Four-year college
- Two-year college/trade/technical school
- Work or other opportunities
- Military

Alvernia University  
 Arcadia University  
 Auburn University  
 Baylor University  
 Boston College  
 Boston University  
 Bowling Green State University  
 Bucknell University  
 Carlow University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Catholic University of America  
 Central Michigan University  
 Champlain College  
 Chestnut Hill College  
 Cheyney University of Pennsylvania  
 Colgate University  
 College of William & Mary  
 Colorado State University  
 Commonwealth University (Bloomsburg)  
 Cornell University  
 Delaware Valley University  
 Dickinson College  
 Drexel University  
 Duquesne University  
 East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania  
 Eastern University  
 Elon University  
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
 Emory University  
 Flagler College  
 Florida Institute of Technology  
 Florida State University  
 George Mason University  
 George Washington University  
 Gettysburg College  
 Gwynedd Mercy University  
 Hampton University  
 Harcum College

Haverford College  
 High Point University  
 Howard University  
 Illinois Institute of Technology  
 Indiana University  
 Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
 Ithaca College  
 James Madison University  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Kutztown University of Pennsylvania  
 Lafayette College  
 Lehigh University  
 Louisiana State University  
 Loyola Marymount University  
 Loyola University Maryland  
 Manor College  
 Messiah University  
 Millersville University of Pennsylvania  
 Montclair State University  
 Montgomery County Community College  
 Muhlenberg College  
 New York University  
 Northeastern University  
 Oberlin College  
 Ohio State University  
 Penn State University, Abington  
 Penn State University, Lehigh Valley  
 Penn State University, University Park  
 Purdue University  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 Rochester Institute of Technology  
 Saint Joseph's University  
 Salisbury University  
 Savannah College of Art and Design  
 Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania  
 Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania  
 Smith College  
 Susquehanna University  
 Syracuse University  
 Temple University

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology  
 Thomas Jefferson University  
 Tufts University  
 Tulane University of Louisiana  
 Tuskegee University  
 University College Dublin  
 University of California, Los Angeles  
 University of California, Santa Barbara  
 University of Chicago  
 University of Colorado, Boulder  
 University of Delaware  
 University of Florida  
 University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
 University of Maryland, College Park  
 University of Michigan  
 University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
 University of Mississippi  
 University of New Hampshire  
 University of Notre Dame  
 University of Oulu  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of Rhode Island  
 University of Scranton  
 University of South Carolina  
 University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
 University of Vienna  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Wisconsin, Madison  
 Ursinus College  
 Vanderbilt University  
 Villanova University  
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
 Walnut Hill College  
 West Chester University of Pennsylvania  
 Widener University  
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
 York College of Pennsylvania